

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

1914.

THOMAS D. WHITE,

Medical Officer of Health.



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To the Burnham-on-Crouch Urban Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,

In presenting my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1914, I am pleased to inform you that I shall have to trouble you with few matters of urgency.

During the past year the town has been comparatively free from serious illness, as also from infectious disease, eighteen cases only having been notified including Tuberculosis, none of which call for special comment. There were three cases of Diphtheria, two of Scarlet Fever, one of Typhoid, and three of Poliomyelitis. In no single case was it considered necessary to open the Isolation Hospital, which has now been closed since March, 1912. The Hospital is visited and inspected weekly, a few minor repairs have received attention, and it can be used at the shortest notice.

The number of births during the year were 61, and the number of deaths 42, out of which latter number 30 occurred over the age of 45 years.

The rainfall for the past two years has been as follows :—

			1913.	1914.
January	...	...	2·64	·85
February	...	...	·71	1·70
March	...	...	2·09	4·64
April	...	...	2·37	·86
May	...	...	1·57	1·49
June	...	...	·94	·67
July	...	...	1·78	2·69
August	...	...	·39	·84
September	...	...	1·28	·81
October	...	...	3·93	1·84
November	...	...	2·92	2·47
December	...	...	·77	5·13
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			21·39	23·99
			<hr/>	<hr/>

The increase in rainfall during 1914 over that of 1913, was due to the excessively wet month of December, when rain was registered on 22 days, and the total for the month represented nearly a quarter of the total for the year.

For the above figures I am indebted to Mr. Dilliway, the Clerk to the Council.

No general or special enquiries were necessary during the year.

The sources of Milk supply which are purely local, are frequently visited, and have always been found in a clean and satisfactory condition.

The Slaughter-Houses are also visited regularly, and the requirements as to lime-washing are paid attention to. A plentiful supply of water is supplied to each. In no case were animals kept within the Slaughter-House.

The Water supplied to the town is analyzed periodically, and the reports furnished by the County Medical Officer of Health are highly satisfactory.

With regard to the Privies and Pail Closets in the district, they are practically in the same condition as heretofore. The large scheme for the improvement of the sewerage of the town mentioned in my last report, has unfortunately been postponed, acting on the suggestion that as little money as possible should be spent during the present war crisis. The scavenging of the town is carried out by contract, and house refuse, pail closets, and cesspools, are systematically attended to.

No case of offering for sale unwholesome food has been brought to my notice.

Building operations have been practically at a stand-still, and the housing accommodation of the poorer classes is in much the same state as last year.

The long felt want of a public sanitary convenience has at last been met. The Local Government Board approved the site and plans, and the town is to be congratulated upon the possession of this useful and necessary addition to their property, which comprises accommodation for both sexes, in addition to shelters and a station for the fire engine and ambulance.

Referring to the Tuberculosis cases, one imported case was recommended for treatment in a shelter, which was provided by the County Authorities. The shelter was in use some months, and after the termination of the case it was disinfected and removed.

The Mid-wives Notification Act has not been put into force as there are no registered Mid-wives in the town.

The question I placed before you as to the advisability of adopting the Notification of Births' Act was considered, and the adoption of the Act was not thought necessary.

Troops have been billeted in the town since the outbreak of war, numbering from 50 to 70. The building known as Warners Hall was entirely occupied by them. It has been inspected and found satisfactory for the purpose.

No change has been made in the staff, consequent upon the war, but an emergency Committee has been formed and arrangements to provide for the safety of the public in the case of any sudden emergency, and I have from the start been in close touch with the Military Medical Authorities. A small house sufficient to accommodate a dozen cases has been taken over by the Red Cross Society.

The repeated process of tar painting the main streets and the repairing of some of the back streets with tarred macadam has proved very satisfactory and has greatly improved the cleanliness of the town generally.

I append a statement of work done by the Sanitary Inspector, and gratefully acknowledge the valuable assistance that he has rendered to me upon all occasions when I have sought his advice and help.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

THOMAS D. WHITE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Table I.—Burnham-on-Crouch (Urban).
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and Previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.			TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.			NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.*	of Non-residents registered in District.	of Residents registered beyond District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.			
			Number.	Rate.*					Number.	Rate per 1,000 nett births.	Number.	Rate.*		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
1909	3,282		55	16.7	42	12.7					42	12.7		
1910	3,326		70	24.04	36	10.8					36	10.8		
1911	3,190		54	16.89	36	8.1		5	2	39.2	31	9.69		
1912	3,215		59	18.3	36	11.19		9	2	33.9	45	13.9		
1913	3,255		61	18.7	22	6.7		6	1	16.39	28	8.6		
1914	3,295	61	61	18.5	34	10.3		8	3	49.1	42	12.7		

* Rates in Columns 5, 7 and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Area of District in acres (land and inland water)	Total population at all ages, 3,190.	Number of inhabited houses,
	4,517.	Total families or separate occupiers,
		At Census of 1911.

Institutions within the District receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the District.	Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District.	Union House, Maldon.

Table II.— Burnham-on-Crouch (Urban).

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1914.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH REGISTRATION SUB-DISTRICT.			Total cases removed to Hospital
	At all Ages.	Years.							Maldon	South-minster.	Tollesbury.	
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65	65 and upwards.				
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	3	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever (R)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	5	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	18	0	3	5	2	5	3	0	0	0	0	0

Isolation Hospital—Name and situation, Isolation Cottage, Maldon Road, Burnham-on-Crouch. *Total available beds, 18.*
 Number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 2. Sanatorium for Tuberculosis at Heybridge.

Table III.—Burnham-on-Crouch (Urban).
Causes of, and Ages at Death during Year 1914.

[illegible]

Table IV.—Burnham-on-Crouch (Urban). INFANT MORTALITY during the Year 1914.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes	{ Certified Uncertified		2				2	1				3
Small-pox ..	..	..								
Chicken-pox ..	..	..								
Measles ..	..	..								
Scarlet Fever ..	..	..								
Whooping Cough ..	..	..								
Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..								
Erysipelas ..	..	..								
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..								
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..	..	..								
Other Tuberculous Diseases ..	..	..								
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) ..	..	..								
Convulsions ..	..	..								
Laryngitis ..	..	..								
Bronchitis ..	..	..								
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	..								
Diarrhoea, all forms ..	..	..								
Enteritis ..	..	..								
Gastritis ..	..	..								
Syphilis ..	..	..								
Rickets ..	..	..								
Suffocation, overlying ..	..	..								
Injury at birth ..	..	..								
Atelectasis ..	..	..	1					1				
Congenital Malformations ..	..	..								
Premature Birth ..	..	..	1									
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ..	..	..								
Other Causes ..	..	..	2					1				3

Nett births in the year—legitimate 60, illegitimate 1.

Nett deaths in the year—legitimate infants 31, illegitimate infants 0.

Table V.

SUMMARY OF WORK done through the Sanitary Inspector in the Urban Sanitary District of Burnham-on-Crouch, during the year ending December 31st, 1914.

	Total No. for Year.
1 Complaints received	6
2 Nuisances detected without complaint ..	15
3 Nuisances abated	20
4 Nuisances remaining unabated	1
5 Formal Notices served	3
6 Summonses taken out	—
7 Convictions obtained	—
8 Lodging-houses inspected	—
9 Slaughter-houses inspected	4 quarterly
10 Bakehouses inspected	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -yearly
11 Dairies and Milk Shops inspected	5 quarterly
12 Cowsheds inspected	2
13 No. of samples of milk taken for examination for cleanliness, etc.	—
14 Filthy Houses cleansed, Sec. 46, P.H. Act, 1875 ..	—
15 Houses disinfected	14
16 Cases of overcrowding abated	—
17 Houses erected or re-built for which Water "Certificates" were applied	—
18 "Certificates" granted	—
19 " " deferred	—
20 Public Wells, total No. in District	—
21 New Public Wells sunk, or improved supplies of water afforded	—
22 Wells cleansed or repaired	—
23 Wells closed	—
24 Privies. No. in district	3
25 " " No. abolished during the year	—
26 Pail Closets. No. in District	30
27 Water Closets. No. in District without flushing cisterns	215
28 Water Closets, with flushing cisterns	456
29 Privies and W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water	6
30 Water cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered ..	—
31 Animals improperly kept removed	—
32 Samples of water taken for analysis	—
33 Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding	—
34 Seizures of unsound meat, &c.	—

(Signed) CHAS. WEEDON,
Assoc. R. San. Inst.

Table V.—Burnham-on-Crouch (Urban).

Report on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

INSPECTION.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	4	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	34	—	—
Workplaces	—	—	—
TOTAL	38	—	—

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DEFECTS.

Want of Cleanliness	Found. 1	Remedied. 1
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